

In the previously submitted response, Applicants pointed out that Watanabe discloses a thermoplastic elastomer and a core-shell polymer as an impact resistance modifier (B), and further discloses a graft copolymer, wherein (a-2) an olefinic copolymer prepared by α -olefins and glycidyl esters of α , β -unsaturated acids are chemically bonded with (b) polymers such as an acrylic polymer, aromatic vinyl polymer and vinyl cyanide polymer. However, Watanabe only discloses various kinds of thermoplastic elastomers and a core-shell polymer as an impact resistance modifier (B), and does not specifically mention a thermoplastic elastomer and a core-shell polymer in combination. Even further, the effect obtainable from the combination thereof is not even suggested at all. See page 8, line 14 to page 9, line 12 of the Amendment filed on February 2, 2006.

To remedy the deficiencies of Watanabe, the Examiner relies on Lane. Lane discloses a copolymer obtained by the process in which n-butyl acrylate, 1,3-butylene diacrylate and allyl methacrylate are polymerized to obtain an acrylic rubber in the first stage and methyl methacrylate and glycidyl methacrylate are graft-copolymerized thereto in the second stage. However, the copolymer obtained in Lane corresponds to a core-shell graft polymer (C) in the present invention, and not to the viscosity modifier for a thermoplastic polyester resin (B). One of ordinary skill in the art would consider the copolymer obtained by graft-copolymerizing the monomers to the crosslinked acrylic rubber in Example of Lane as having an infinite weight average molecular weight, which is not equivalent to the viscosity modifier (B) of the present invention which has a finite weight average molecular weight of 1,000 to 400,000. Thus, the references, whether taken alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest all elements of the present invention as a whole.


Further, the essence of the present invention lies in the synergistic effect obtainable from the combination of a specific viscosity modifier for a thermoplastic polyester resin and a core-shell graft polymer. The thermoplastic polyester resin composition of the present invention which contains both a specific viscosity modifier for a thermoplastic polyester resin and a core-shell graft polymer has excellent property in anti-draw down effect and Izod impact strength, compared with resin compositions containing only one selected therefrom. See for example, Example 4 and Comparative Example 3 in Table 1 on page 32 of the specification. These unexpectedly superior results demonstrate the patentability of the present claims over the prior art. Moreover, neither of Watanabe nor Lane teaches or suggests the desirability of combining a specific viscosity modifier for a thermoplastic polyester resin and a core-shell graft polymer, and the advantages attendant thereto.

Accordingly, the present invention is not rendered obvious and Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: June 19, 2006